

Lorenzo, Police Officer of the Year; Yomo Toro, Padrino International; Roberto Nunez, Fireman of the Year; Nellie Tanco, Madrina International; Captain George Bueno, Fire Officer of the Year; Jose Cotty, Paramedic of the Year; and Orlando Cuervas, Puerto Rican Artist of the Year.

For its commitment to the Puerto Rican community and the city of Jersey City, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Puerto Rican community in Jersey City, all of the committee members who contributed to the event, and all of this year's honorees. Its remarkable efforts in promoting cultural diversity and unity have truly bettered the entire city.

SILVERTON 1999 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this moment to recognize an exceptional woman. Patty Dailey was named Silverton's Citizen of the Year in an awards ceremony that took place June 16th. Born and raised in Silverton, Patty became the type of citizen that every community needs and hopes for. The award program began in the 1980s and the selection committee consists of recipients from previous years. The award is given out annually and recognizes dedication to community development, volunteerism, and overall good citizenship.

Patty exemplifies all of these attributes. She has always taken the time to involve herself in community events and projects. Her role, however, was usually one that took place behind the scenes. Patty Dailey never bothered to seek recognition for the aid that she provided. She even hosts the weekly dinner for the area's senior citizens. Recently, when 23 Mexican nationals were being held awaiting deportation, Patty provided them all with home cooked dinners. She has also been known to hire part-time help, not because she needed the help, but because a young person needed the job.

Patty has also been active in events for local schools and her church. She has helped with many school fundraising events, including the A Theater Group spaghetti dinner, which benefitted a scholarship program for Silverton's graduating seniors. At Saint Patrick's church, where she is an active member, she participates in the Altar Society and is a leader in fundraising and organization for their annual Christmas bazaar.

It is obvious why Patty Dailey was chosen as the 1999 Citizen of the Year. I think that we all owe her a debt of gratitude for her service and dedication to the community. If we had more citizens like her, I am certain that we would live in a very harmonious place.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OUTLINING A VISION TO SHAPE CONGRESSIONAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY POLICY INTO THE NEXT CENTURY

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of a concurrent resolution which recognizes the critical role played by the information technology sector and electronic commerce in the United States economy. On behalf of my colleagues, Representatives DREIER, GOODLATTE, DOOLEY, JIM MORAN, DUNN, ESHOO, and ADAM SMITH, I am setting forth principles that we hope will shape congressional information technology and electronic commerce policies that will ensure United States' continued worldwide dominance and competitiveness in the Information Technology Revolution.

The United States is the world leader in the innovation and production of information technological goods and services. Information technology was responsible for 6.1 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product in 1996. In 1997, U.S. businesses took in \$804 billion or 80 percent of worldwide information technology revenues. Information technology has spurred economic growth in the form of new goods, new services, new jobs, and new capital. Since 1993, the U.S. high technology industry has added over 1 million jobs to the U.S. economy, such that the industry now employs nearly 5 percent of the U.S. private sector workforce as of 1998.

Similarly, Internet growth has outstripped earlier predictions. The number of Americans with access to the Internet has increased nearly 900 percent since early 1993. There were an estimated 148 million Internet users worldwide at the end of 1998, with approximately 81 million users in the U.S. alone by early 1999. One estimate places the dollar volume of business-to-business electronic commerce in 1998 at \$27.4 billion. The projected volume for 1999 is \$64.8 billion. Those numbers are expected to quadruple in the next two years alone.

Like other pivotal moments in human history, the Information Technology Revolution is transforming the tools and ideas that affect the way individuals communicate and think both privately and commercially. The American experience alone is replete with illustrations of new technologies generating faster economic growth. As the information technology industry continues its phenomenal expansion, the Federal Government needs to ensure that it plays an enabling—and not an inhibiting—role in supporting the movement of industry and people into the Information Age.

It is critical that policy makers recognize that the information technology industry and electronic commerce have become thriving forces in our economy because of the simple fact that they have largely been left alone to develop and grow according to the demands of free market processes. Our hope is that this resolution will encourage lawmakers to con-

sider the holistic effect of individual legislative initiatives that are directly or indirectly aimed at information technology and electronic commerce. For this reason, I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to achieve passage of this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES H. BAKER

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to recognize the outstanding achievement of Brigadier General James H. Baker, who will retire from the Missouri Air National Guard on September 17, 1999, after 37 years of extraordinary service to our nation.

Brigadier General Baker is originally from Knoxville, Tennessee, and graduated from Florida State University in 1962. In November 1962, Brigadier General Baker enlisted in the Air Force and was commissioned a second lieutenant in February 1963. After graduating from Air Weapons Controller School in 1963, he was assigned to the 728th Tactical Control Squadron at Ft. Bragg, where he performed extensive temporary assignments in both Thailand and the Republic of Vietnam. Brigadier General Baker was then selected to become the Operations Officer of the 729th Tactical Control Squadron at Eglin AFB, where he tested and implemented the concept of a forward Air Control Post and deployed to the Dominican Republic.

In July 1965, Brigadier General Baker returned to the United States and served as Operations Training Officer at the 727th Tactical Control Squadron at Walker AFB, New Mexico, where he was augmented as a regular officer in the USAF. Brigadier General Baker then served as an advisor to the Nationalist Chinese Tactical Control Center at Taipei Air Station, Taiwan, in August 1966. He returned to the United States as a Captain and was assigned as Assistant Professor Aerospace Studies at the University of Mississippi, where he taught Military History, Military Management, Leadership and Air Force Organization, and served as Commandant of Cadets.

In September 1971, Brigadier General Baker was assigned to the Command Advisory Function (for special projects), 314th Air Division in Osan AG, Korea. Later that year, he also was selected to command a remote radar site at Kang Nung AB, Korea. When he returned to the United States, Brigadier General Baker assumed the position of Director of Operations for the 727th Tactical Control Squadron, and later became Chief, Standardization and Evaluation for the 602nd Tactical Air Control Wing at Bergstrom AFB, Texas, until his resignation from the regular Air Force in May 1976.

In June 1976, Brigadier General Baker joined the Missouri Air National Guard as both the Air Technician and Military Commander of the 157th Tactical Control Flight. While at Jefferson Barracks Air National Guard Base, Brigadier General Baker assumed the positions of Base Commander, Air Technician